

SEARCH  
DETNEWS.COM **GO**

Saturday, May 19, 2001

The **NEW** Marketplace Mall  
Marketplace Shopping**OVER  
50  
STORES!**

The Detroit News

[E-mail this story](#)[Comment on this story](#)[Return to Metro](#)[Previous story](#) [Next story](#)

detnews.com

**SITE INDEX**

[Homepage](#)  
[Search](#)  
[CyberSurveys](#)  
[News Talk](#)  
[Sports Talk](#)  
[Lions Talk](#)  
[Tiger Talk](#)  
[Wings Talk](#)  
[Car Talk](#)  
[Tech Talk](#)  
[Horoscope](#)  
[Hot Sites](#)  
[Lottery](#)  
[Weather](#)  
[Staff](#)

**NEWS**

[Autos](#)  
[Joyrides](#)  
[Business](#)  
[Careers](#)  
[Census](#)  
[Columnists](#)  
[Commuting](#)  
[Detroit History](#)  
[Editorials](#)  
[Health](#)  
[Metro / State](#)  
[Livingston](#)  
[Macomb](#)  
[Oakland](#)  
[Wayne](#)  
[On Detroit](#)  
[Nation / World](#)  
[Obituaries](#)  
[Death Notices](#)  
[Politics / Govt.](#)  
[Real Estate](#)  
[Religion](#)  
[Schools](#)  
[Special Reports](#)  
[Technology](#)

**SPORTS**

[Sports Home](#)  
[Lions/NFL](#)  
[Pistons/NBA](#)  
[Red Wings/NHL](#)  
[Shock/WNBA](#)  
[Tigers/Baseball](#)  
[MSU](#)  
[U-M](#)  
[More Colleges](#)  
[Golf Guide](#)  
[High Schools](#)  
[Motor Sports](#)  
[More Sports](#)  
[Scoreboards](#)

**ENTERTAINMENT**[Entertainment](#)

## Residents unhappy about Lake Michigan dredging

**By Associated Press**

**GRAND HAVEN** -- Some property owners along Grand Haven's north shore of Lake Michigan are unhappy about the government's dredging along the shore.

The landowners say the dredged material being dumped at the water's edge stinks and contains sharp objects that make it dangerous to walk along the shore.

"If you would walk across there with your bare feet, your bare feet would maybe get cut up," property owner Gerald Lindquist said.

Grand Haven is among 11 harbors on the eastern shore that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is dredging this spring because of the lake's continuing low water levels.

The dredging that started here last week will create a deeper shipping channel in the flare entering Grand Haven's harbor. Corps officials expect the work to be done by early next week.

The local project involves moving about 27,000 cubic yards of sand and other materials from the harbor bottom onto the beach just north of the north pier head. The Corps paid \$200,000 to King Construction Co. of Holland to dredge the harbor.

Many residents along the north shore don't want the dredged material on their beach. Norman Meyer, who lives in a lakeside home just north of the pier, said the color Wednesday of the Grand River, which empties into the harbor, was the worst he has seen in all of his 23 years there.

"It was absolutely brown," he told the Grand Haven Tribune.

Meyer said he believes some sewage overflows from upstream Grand Rapids that normally settle at the bottom of the harbor now end up on the north shore beach because of the dredging project.

A "no body contact advisory" for the river, issued Wednesday and in effect through Sunday, resulted from a 6 million-gallon sewage-overflow warning caused by heavy rains earlier this week. Meyer questioned why the dredging continues while the advisory is in effect.

Corps engineer Tom O'Bryan said it takes at least two days for Grand Rapids sewage to make it to the mouth of the river.

"I can guarantee you that the sewage overflow from Grand Rapids (on Tuesday) has not reached the beach yet," he said.

Ross Kittleman, who heads the Corps' Grand Haven office, said any odor from the material is temporary and probably caused by hydrogen gas from the river and lake bottom. He's not aware of any health concerns from the deposits.

► [Casino Guide](#)  
► [Movie Finder](#)  
► [TV Listings](#)  
[Crossword](#)

#### **HOMESTYLE**

[Homestyle home](#)  
► [Decorating](#)  
► [Food](#)  
► [Gardening](#)  
► [Home Improvement](#)  
► [Home Life](#)  
► [Home Tech](#)  
► [Wine Report](#)

#### **PHOTOS**

[Sports](#)  
[Red Wings](#)  
[Autos](#)  
[Joyrides](#)  
[News](#)  
[History](#)

O'Bryan said the Corps has hired a firm to provide additional testing of the dredged sediment and river water. Test results aren't available yet but a preliminary visual examination didn't indicate anything unusual, he said.

Sue Pelak said she doesn't object to work crews depositing dredged material on a beach access that she and her husband co-own.

"It actually looks very good," Pelak said. "They're plowing and making it look very good."

Kittleman said many communities will receive the material for use as fill next spring.

#### **On the Net:**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, <http://www.usace.army.mil/>

► [Comment on this story](#)

► [Previous story](#) ► [Back to index](#) ► [Next story](#)

Copyright 2001  
The Detroit News.

Use of this site  
signifies your  
agreement to the  
[Terms of Service](#)  
(updated April 17,  
2000).